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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

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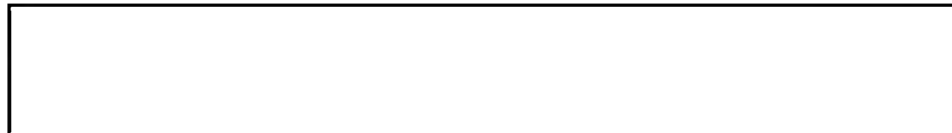
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3. Italy: Election outcome may hurt prospects for continued center-left collaboration. (Page 4)



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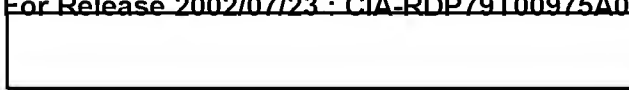
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Italy: Prospects for continued center-left collaboration could be seriously hurt as a result of the 22-23 November nationwide provincial and municipal elections.

Complete communal returns are not yet available, but figures for the provincial elections, as compared with last year's parliamentary elections, show that the Christian Democrats held their own. Socialist losses of nearly 20 percent, however, exceed what party leaders had earlier considered politically manageable.

The Communists registered their largest postwar vote, 26.2 percent as compared with 25.6 percent last year. Their electoral gains resulted in large part from the government's failure to project a progressive reform image.

Premier Moro and others in his Christian Democratic Party who favor the center-left will cite their party's showing as justification for the center-left policy. Moro will still have great difficulty in forcing his party to be more forthcoming on reforms, particularly as some Christian Democrats will try to exploit the Socialists' weakened position to delay or water down the reform program.

Whether Nenni is able to keep his party in the coalition will depend largely on what guarantees Moro is able to give the Socialists on an early start on reforms. Those Socialists who are urging that their party pull out will probably try to force this action at the Socialist Party congress planned for next February or March.

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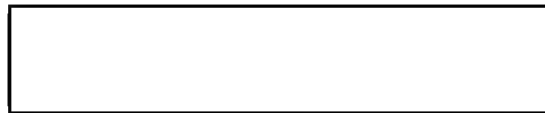
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The issue of continued collaboration may come to a head before the Socialist congress if an early parliamentary vote is called on a successor to ailing President Segni. The choice of a successor is a highly divisive issue both within the Christian Democratic party and between the Christian Democrats and their coalition partners.

At the local level, it appears likely that center-left governments in several important cities may not be reestablished. [REDACTED]

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DAILY BRIEF

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Brazil: President Castello Branco remains under pressure from military "hard liners" to intervene in Goias State following a Supreme Court decision upholding Governor Borges' immunity from prosecution for subversion.

The court ruled that Borges could be tried by either a military or a civilian court, but only if the Goias State legislature--where Borges controls a majority--waives the governor's immunity.

Castello Branco has publicly reiterated his determination to abide by the court decree, but at the same time emphasized that he could not tolerate subversion in Goias. He is likely now to canvass opinion in the state legislature to determine the feasibility of a formal request to waive the governor's immunity.

The government's difficulties in Goias are not expected to damage long-range prospects for stability. Officials are nevertheless concerned by reports that opposition groups plan to exploit the situation by creating further unrest in Goias and elsewhere.

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DAILY BRIEF

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NOTES

*Panama: Yesterday's vote of confidence by the National Assembly in the government's handling of the Canal negotiations has won another important point for the Robles administration. Nevertheless, the Communists who led Monday's student agitation are seeking to regain the initiative they lost when government forces effectively broke up the demonstrations. They have called another public meeting for late today

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India: The Communists' chances of regaining control of Kerala State in elections there next February are improving. The two state Communist parties, representing "left" and "right" tendencies respectively, previously appeared unlikely to collaborate, but now seem to be moving toward an electoral alliance. At the same time, the badly divided local Congress Party has been further weakened by the national government's bungling of the food problem in Kerala

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DAILY BRIEF

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